

Message Text

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EB/TCA/OCA:A ZUCCA (INFO)
AID/RDP:ML DI LEGGE (INFO)
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TO AMCONSUL CURACAO
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SUBJECT:REIMBURSABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS - CALL BY
GONA MINECONOMICS

1. GONA MINISTER OF ECONOMIC PLANNING LARMONIE,
ACCOMPANIED BY DR. DECASTRO AND GONA NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE
LOWENTHAL, CALLED ON MR. DILEGGE, DIRECTOR FOR LATIN
AMERICA IN THE OFFICE OF REIMBURSABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
(AA/RDP), FRIDAY, JUNE 26, FOR A BRIEFING ON THE NATURE OF
THE REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND ITS
RELEVANCE TO GONA NEEDS.

2. IN THE COURSE OF A 45 MINUTE CONVERSATION, MR. DILEGGE
DESCRIBED HIS PROGRAM IN DETAIL, STRESSING THAT ITS
REIMBURSABLE NATURE OBIATED THE NEED TO FOLLOW A.I.D.'S
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STRINGENT GUIDELINES REGARDING CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE,
I.E., PROVIDING ASSISTANCE ONLY TO THE POOREST OF THE POOR.
REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS DESIGNED TO HELP
GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE SPECIFIC PROJECTS IN MIND AS WELL
AS THE NECESSARY FUNDS, BUT WHICH LACK TECHNICAL EXPERTISE
TO PUT THEM INTO EFFECT. AA/RDP CAN ASSEMBLE THE
TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE AVAILABLE WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT AND ACT AS A CLEARING HOUSE FOR INTERESTED PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRACTORS.

3. MR. DILEGGE POINTED OUT THAT IN CASES WHERE A GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING TECHNICAL ADVICE ON DEFINING A PARTICULAR PROGRAM AND THE ADVICE OR RECOMMENDATION WILL LEAD TO A COUNTRY-FINANCED PROJECT, HIS OFFICE CAN FUND SPECIAL SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL SERVICES. THESE SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE REGARDLESS OF THE PER CAPITA INCOME LEVEL OF THE GOVERNMENT CONCERNED.

4. MINISTER LARMONIE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN THE REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND INDICATED THAT, IN THE CASE OF HIS GOVERNMENT, FINANCING WAS NOT A MAJOR PROBLEM. THE MINISTER EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE FUNDED SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL STUDY ASPECT OF THE PROGRAM AND MENTIONED IN PASSING THAT SUCH AN APPROACH MIGHT BE USEFUL IN EXAMINING INTER-ISLAND TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES.

5. MR. DILEGGE SUGGESTED THAT THE GONA SHOULD CONSIDER PROJECTS FOR WHICH IT MIGHT WISH REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ASK CONGEN CURACAO TO FORWARD ANY REQUESTS TO WASHINGTON FOR ACTION. A REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OFFICER WILL SHORTLY BE ASSIGNED TO CARACAS AND COULD VISIT CURACAO TO DISCUSS WITH GONA OFFICIALS ANY UNCLASSIFIED

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QUESTIONS THEY MIGHT HAVE.

6. EXPLANATION OF THE REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IS BEING FORWARDED TO POST BY POUCH. VANCE

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